Instrument prepared by:

VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

Order recorded under:

CODE OF VIRGINIA § 45.1-361.26

VIRGINIA:

BEFORE THE GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANTS:

CNX Gas Company on behalf of HC Bostic coal

DOCKET NO.

Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen

03-0513-1147-01

McReynolds, and Peggy Arnet.

RELIEF SOUGHT:

Issuance: A Supplemental Order for Disbursement of Escrowed Funds

Action: Amending Prior Orders Affecting Drilling Unit AW-118, Tract 1

(Referenced herein as "the Subject Drilling Unit")

Location: Russell County, Virginia

**Action Details:** 

(I) To provide a calculation of funds, Unit Operator has deposited into the Escrow Account for Drilling Unit AW-118 by Tract Subaccounts;

- (2) To provide each applicant, in simple terms, a complete month over month Royalty
  Accounting of unit production, costs, taxes and proceeds, depicting variables used in
  the calculation of royalty payments to the unit escrow account.
- (3) To disburse unit funds to the Applicants, in accordance with their Unit Ownership Interests relative to those funds deposited by the Unit Operator into Subject Drilling Unit's Escrow Subaccount for VGOB Tract(s) identified in Table 1.

# REPORT OF THE BOARD FINDINGS AND ORDER

- 1. Hearing Date and Place: This matter came on for final hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (herein "Board") at 9:00 a.m. on February 15, 2011, at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center on the campus of Virginia Highlands Community College, Abingdon, VA.
- Appearances: Mark A. Swartz of Swartz Law Offices appeared for the Applicant; and Sharon M.B. Pigeon, Assistant Attorney General, was present to advise the Board.
- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Notice:</u> Pursuant to Va. Code §§ 45.1-361.1 et seq., and in particular Va. Code §§ 45.1-361.21 and 45.1-361.22, the Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the establishment and maintenance of an escrow account, with tract subaccounts, for each of the coalbed methane gas drilling units established by the Board through its field rules that are subject to a Board pooling order. Further, the Unit Operator is required to deposit, as applicable, those funds specified in Va. Code § 45.1-361.21.D., 45.1-361.22.A.2, 45.1-361.22.A.3 and 45.1-361.22.A.4 into the applicable escrow tract subaccounts. The Board finds that: (1) while it does not have jurisdiction to resolve conflicting claims to the ownership of the Coalbed Methane Gas produced by the Unit Operator from wells located on Subject Drilling Unit, and (2) while it does not have jurisdiction to interpret agreements by and between

the Gas owners/claimants and/or the Unit Operators or to abridge or contravene the provisions of such agreements, (3) pursuant to Va. Code § 45.1-361.22.A.5, the Board does have jurisdiction and authority to disburse funds from the Escrow Account provided the Board has been provided with a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating the ownership of coalbed methane gas as between the conflicting claimants or an agreement among all claimants owning conflicting estates in the tracts in question or any undivided interest therein or a decision from a court appointed Arbitrator.

### 4. Prior Proceedings:

- 4.1 (a) On May 13, 2003, the Board executed its order pooling interests in the Subject Drilling Unit for the production of occluded natural gas produced from coalbeds and rock strata associated therewith (herein "Gas") in accordance with the provisions of Va. Code SS 45.1-361.21 and 45.1-361.22 (herein "Pooling Order"). The Pooling Order was filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Russell County on April 20, 2005, in Deed Book 629, Pages 0779 to 0795 Instrument 0501268. The Supplemental Order was executed and recorded in with the Clerk of the Court, Russell County on December 13, 2007, in Deed Book 682, Pages 0861 to 0871 Instrument 0703935.
- 4.2 To the extent claims to the Gas were in conflict, pursuant to Va. Code S 45.1-361-22 payments attributable to said conflicting claims were ordered deposited by the Unit Operator into the escrow account established by the Pooling Orders (herein "Escrow Account"). According to the Pooling Orders and testimony, HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett in the Subject Drilling Unit have entered into royalty split agreement(s) for 7.08 acres in a portion of Tract 1 that became subject to the escrow requirements of the Pooling Order.
- 4.3 The Unit Operator's Miscellaneous Petition regarding a portion of Tract 1, a copy of which is attached to and made a part hereof, states under oath that HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett in the Subject Drilling Unit have entered into royalty split agreement(s) for 7.08 acres in a portion of Tract 1 and should be disbursed in a portion of Tract 1 and escrow regarding this individual claim detailed herein is no longer required and monthly royalty payments are to be made direct to the parties.
- 4.4 The Unit Operator gave notice to HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett in the Subject Drilling Unit have entered into royalty split agreement(s) for 7.08 acres in a portion of Tract 1 at its hearing on February 15, 2011, and consider whether to: (1) amend the Pooling Order to provide for the disbursement a portion of funds on deposit in the Escrow Account attributable to a portion of Tracts 1 as identified in the attached miscellaneous petition (2) delete the requirement that the Unit Operator place future royalties attributable to a portion of said Tract 1, the interests of Applicant identified in the miscellaneous petition in the Escrow Account, and (3) continue the escrow account under this docket number because parties other than those seeking disbursement under this order are subject to continued payments in the escrow.
- 4.5 The Unit Operator filed the attached accounting (Exhibit A) for Subject Drilling Unit's Escrow Account with the Board ("Accounting").

#### 5. Findings:

#### 5.1. Va. Code 45.1-361.22.5 provides:

The Board shall order payment of principal and accrued interests, less escrow account fees, from the escrow account to conflicting claimants within thirty days of receipt of notification of (i) a final decision of a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating the ownership of coalbed methane gas as between them or (ii) an agreement among all claimants owning conflicting estates in the tracts in question or any undivided interest therein. The amount to be paid to the conflicting claimants shall be determined based on the percentage of ownership interest of the conflicting claimants as shown in the operator's supplemental filing made part of the pooling order that established the escrow account, the operator's records of deposits attributable to those tracts for which funds are being requested, and the records of the escrow account for the coalbed methane gas drilling unit. The interests of any cotenants who have not entered into an agreement shall remain in the escrow account.

5.2 Applicant has certified and represented to the Board that:

- (1) HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett in the Subject Drilling Unit have entered into royalty split agreement(s) for 7.08 acres in a portion of Tract 1 of the Subject Drilling Unit; AW-118.
- (2) Net interests attributable and to be disbursed to Applicants are shown in Table 1,

|          |          | Approved Disbursement<br>3-0513-1147-01                           | Accrage<br>Accrage<br>Fraction | ven<br>Acreage<br>Interest | Split<br>Agreement | Acres    | % of<br>Escrowed |
|----------|----------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------|
|          | Table 1  |   |                                |                            |                    |          | Funds            |
| <u> </u> | -        | Tract 1   |                                | _                          |                    |          |                  |
| Item     | Tract    | Disbursement Table  |                                |                            |                    |          |                  |
|          | -        |   | 7.08                           |                            | _                  | 9.150009 |                  |
|          |          |   |                                |                            |                    | _        | 0.0000%          |
|          | <u> </u> | HC Bostic Coal Company, P. O. Box 220, Swords Creek, VA 24649     |                                | 7.08001                    | 50.0%              | 3.5400   | 38.6885%         |
|          |          | Myrtle Donohoe Dye Heirs  |                                | -                          |                    | ĺ        |                  |
| 2_       |          | James R. Grace, 18128 Brekenridge Court, Abingdon, VA 24211       | 1/3                            | 2,3600                     | 50,0%              | 1.1800   | 12.8962%         |
| 3        | <u> </u> | Bill & Helen McReynolds, 151 Star Lake Drive, Hawthorne, FL 32640 | 1/3                            | 2.3600                     | \$0.0%             | 1,1800   | 12,8962%         |
|          |          | Peggy Arnett, 2590 Lester Court, Mansfield, OH 44903              | 1/3                            | 2.3600                     | 50.0%              | 1.1800   | 12.8962%         |
|          |          |   | <del></del>                    |                            |                    |          |                  |

#### 6. Relief Granted:

For the reasons set forth in Paragraph 4 and 5 above, and based upon the Accounting and Table 1 above, the Escrow Agent is ordered to, within 10 days of receipt of this executed order to disburse funds for the unit and applicants detailed in Table 1 above.

Exhibit E to the Pooling Order, showing owners subject to escrow, is deleted and replaced with the Exhibit E attached to this order. Further, the Supplemental Order filed in this cause is hereby modified to delete the requirement that payments attributable to the conflicting coalbed methane gas ownership interests of those applicants indicated in Table 1 be deposited by the Unit Operator into the Escrow Account, and, because there are other owners subject to escrow under the Supplemental Order, the Escrow Agent is directed to continue the Escrow Account for Subject Drilling Unit. To the extent not specifically granted herein, any other or further relief is denied.

#### 7. Conclusion:

Therefore, the requested relief and all terms and provisions set forth above in Paragraph 6 above be and hereby are granted and IT IS SO ORDERED.

#### 8. Appeals:

Appeals of this Order are governed by the provisions of Va. Code § 45.1-361.9 which provides that any order or decision of the Board may be appealed to the appropriate circuit court and that whenever a coal owner, coal operator, gas owner, gas operator, or operator of a gas storage field certificated by the State Corporation Commission is a party in such action, the court shall hear such appeal de novo.

| 9. Effective Date: This Order shall be effective on the date of its execution.   |
|--|
| DONE AND EXECUTED this   |
| Bradley C. (Butch) Lambert, Chairman<br>Virginia Gas and Oil Board   |
| DONE AND PERFORMED this  |
| David E. Asbury Jr., Principal Executive to the Staff Virginia Gas and Oil Board   |
| COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA) COUNTY OF RUSSELL  Acknowledged on this  |
| the Virginia Gas and Oil Board and David E. Asbury Jr., being duly sworn did depose and say that he is Principal Executiv  |
| to the Staff of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do so.   |
| My commission expires: _09_/_30_/_2013_  My commission expires: _09_/_30_/_2013_  Notary Public #174394  |
| 1100861  TO # 1745th  Reserve Commission exercises  TO # 1745th  |
| VIRGINIA: IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF RUSSELL COUNTY, 4-37, 2011. This deed was this day presented in said office, and upon the certificate of acknowledgment thereto annexed, admitted to record at 11:55 o'clock AM, after payment of |

\$\_\_\_\_\_ tax imposed by Sec. 58.1-802.

Original returned this date to: Diane Davis

# Exhibit A-1 Tract-by-Tract Escrow Calculation BOOK - 733 PAGE 0141 Account Balances as of 11/30/10

Unit AW-118 VGOB 03-0513-1147-01 Acres Escrowed: 9.150009

| Owners                          | Tract# | Tract<br>Acres | Owner<br>Acres | Interest | Owners'<br>Percent of<br>Escrow | Amount<br>Due Owners<br>\$3,278.99 |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------|----------------|----------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Pocahontas Seam only            | _      | Ϊ              |                |          |                                 | •                                  |
| HC Bostic Coal Company - O&G    |        | 7.08           |                |          | 38.6886%                        | \$1,268.59                         |
| Myrtle Donohoe Dye Heirs - Coal | _ 1    | 16.52          |                |          |                                 |                                    |
| James R. Grace                  |        | -              | 2.36           | 1/3      | 12.8962%                        | \$422.86                           |
| Bill & Helen McReynolds         |        |                | 2.36           | 1/3      | 12.8962%                        | \$422.86                           |
| Peggy Amett                     |        |                | 2.36           | 1/3      | 12.8962%                        | \$422,86                           |
|                                 |        |                | Selection of   | * ****   |                                 |                                    |

Wells contributing to the escrow account:

AW118

#### BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

PETITIONER: CNX Gas Company LLC

DIVISION OF GAS AND OIL DOCKET NO: VGOB 03-0513-1147-01

RELIEF SOUGHT: (1) DISBURSEMENT FROM

ESCROW REGARDING TRACT(S) 1
(2) AND AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT

HEARING DATE: February 15, 2011

PAYMENT OF ROYALTIES

**DRILLING UNIT: AW-118** 

RUSSELL COUNTY, VIRGINIA

#### **MISCELLANEOUS PETITION**

- 1. <u>Petitioner and its counsel:</u> Petitioner is CNX Gas Company LLC, 2481 John Nash Boulevard, Bluefield, WV 24701, 304/323-6500. Petitioner's counsel is Mark A. Swartz, SWARTZ LAW OFFICES, PLLC., 601 Sixth Avenue, Suite 201, P.O. Box 1808, St. Albans, WV 25177-1808.
- 2. Relief sought: (1) the disbursement of escrowed funds heretofore deposited with the Board's Escrow Agent(s) attributable to Tract(s) I as depicted upon the annexed Exhibit A-1; and (2) authorization to begin paying royalties directly to the parties to the royalty split between HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett
- 3. <u>Legal Authority</u>: Va. Code Ann. § 45.1-361.1 <u>et seq.</u>, 4 VAC 25-160-140., and relevant Virginia Gas and Oil Board Orders ("Board") heretofore promulgated pursuant to law.
  - 4. Type of well(s): Coalbed methane.
- 5. <u>Factual basis for relief requested:</u> HC Bostic Coal Company and James R. Grace, Bill and Helen McReynolds, and Peggy Arnett have entered into royalty split agreement(s). Said royalty split agreement allows the Applicant and Designated Operator to pay royalties directly to the persons identified in Exhibit EE annexed hereto and the annexed Exhibit A-1, further, specifies how said royalties are to be divided and paid.
- 6. <u>Attestation:</u> The foregoing Petition to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief is true and correct.

CNX GAS COMPANY LLC

BY ITS PROFESSIONAL MANAGER

CNX GAS COMPANY-LLC, PETITIONER

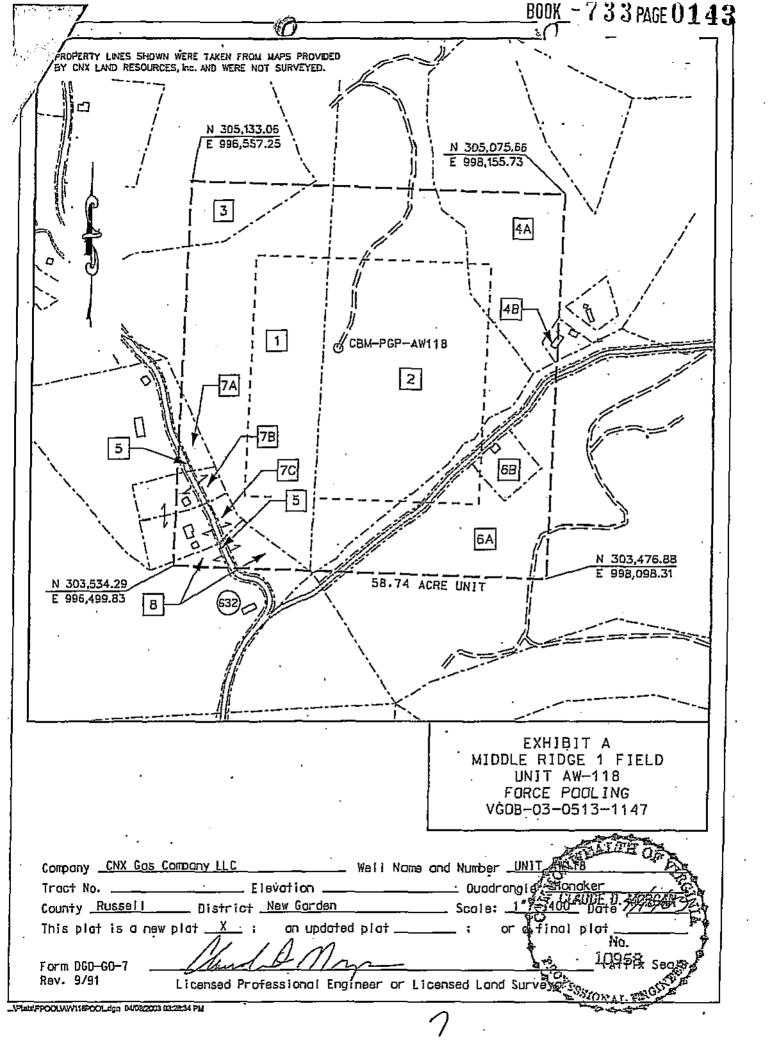
By: Anita D. Duty

Pooling Supervisor

CNX Land Resources, Inc.

2481 John Nash Blvd.

Bluefield, West Virginia 24701





#### CNX GAS COMPANY LLC

Unit AW-118 Tract Identifications (58.74 Acre Unit)

- 1. H. C. Bostic Coal Co., et al All Minerals (except Coal in Pocahontas Seam)
  CNX Gas Company LLC CBM Leased
  Myrtle Donohoe Dye Heirs, Successors or Devisees Coal in the Pocahontas Seam
  H. C. Bostic Coal Company, et al Surface
  16.52 acres
  28.1238%
- 2. Steve M. Hubbard, et al Fee (except Red Ash Seam and Jawbone Seam)
  CNX Gas Company LLC Oll, Gas and CBM Leased
  Marfin McGee Coal In the Jawbone Seam
  Ira and Polly Hubbard, Heirs, Devisees or Successors Coal In the Red Ash Seam
  CNX Gas Company LLC Oil, Gas and CBM Leased
  20,63 acres
  35,1209%
- Dorothy Miller, et al Fee (except Coal in the Red Ash and Jawbone Seams)
   Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal in Jawbone Seam
   L. E. Joyce and W. P. Joyce Coal in Red Ash Seam
   L.E. Joyce and W. P Joyce Coal Seams Above Red Ash Seam Leased
   CNX Gas Company LLC Oil, Gas and CBM Leased
   1.94 acres
   3.3027%
- 4. Martin E. McGee, et al All Minerals (except Red Ash Seam)
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal In Red Ash Seam
  CNX Gas Company LLC Oil, Gas and CBM Leased
  6.02 acres 10.2486%
  - 4A. Emmanuel Hubbard, et al Surface
  - 4B. Unknown Surface Owner
- 5. Commonwealth of Virginia Fee 0.51 acres 0.8682%
- 6. Swords Creek Land Partnership Tr. 20 All Minerals
  Reserve Coal Properties Company Coal Below Tiller Seam Leased
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal in the Tiller and Above Seams Leased
  CNX Gas Company LLC Oil, Gas and CBM Leased
  9.87 acres
  16.8029%
  - 6A. Cecil E. Dye, et ux Surface 6B. Unknown Surface Owner





Unit AW-118

Tract Identifications (58.74 Acre Unit)

- 7A. Swords Creek Land Partnership Tr. 17 Coal
  Reserve Coal Properties Company Coal Below Tiller Seam Leased
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal In Tiller and Above Leased
  CNX Gas Company LLC CBM Leased
  James A. Hale, et ux Surface and All Minerals except Coal
  0.56 acres
  0.9534%
- 7B. Swords Creek Land Partnership Tr. 17 Coal
  Reserve Coal Properties Company Coal Below Tiller Seam Leased
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal In Tiller and Above Leased
  CNX Gas Company LLC CBM Leased
  Tivis P. Brown, et ux Surface and All Minerals except Coal
  0.54 acres
  0.9193%
- 7C. Swords Creek Land Partnership Tr. 17 Coal
  Reserve Coal Properties Company Coal Below Tiller Seam Leased
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal In Tiller and Above Leased
  CNX Gas Company LLC CBM Leased
  Tivis P. Brown, et ux or James A. Halle, et ux Surface and All Minerals except Coal
  0.97 acres
  1.6513%
- 8. Swords Creek Land Partnership Tr. 17 Coal
  Reserve Coal Properties Company Coal Below Tiller Seam Leased
  Knox Creek Coal Corporation Coal in Tiller and Above Leased
  Jearldine Whited Surface and All Minerals except Coal
  CNX Gas Company LLC Oil, Gas and CBM Leased
  1.18 acres 2.0089%



### Exhibit E Unit AW-118 Docket #VGOB 03-0513-1147-01

## List of Conflicting Owners/Claimants that require Escrow (58.74 Acre Unit)

|               | <u></u>   | Acres In Unit | interest in<br>Unit |
|---------------|---|---------------|---------------------|
| Tract #7A, 0. | <u>56 acres</u>   |               |                     |
| COAL          | OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | Swords Creek Land Partnership, Tr.17<br>P.O. Box 29<br>Tazewell, VA 24651 | 0.56 acres    | 0.9534%             |
| <u>8 110</u>  | GAS OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | James A. Hale, et ux.<br>4997 Lynn Springs Rd.<br>Swords Creek, VA 24649  | 0.56 acres    | 0.9534%             |
| Tract #7B, 0. | 54 acres  |               |                     |
| COAL          | OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | Swords Creek Land Partnership, Tr.17<br>P.O. Box 29<br>Tazewell, VA 24551 | 0.54 acres    | 0.9193%             |
| OIL 8         | GAS OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | Tivis P. Brown, et ux.<br>4991 Lynn Springs Rd.<br>Swords Creek, VA 24649 | 0.54 acres    | 0.9193%             |
| Tract #7C, 0. | 97 acres  |               |                     |
| Escro         | w due to Title conflict   |               |                     |
| COAL          | OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | Swords Creek Land Partnership, Tr.17<br>P.O. Box 29<br>Tazewell, VA 24651 | 0.97 acres    | 1.6513%             |
| OIL 8         | GAS OWNERSHIP   |               |                     |
| (1)           | Tivis P. Brown, et ux.<br>4991 Lynn Springs Rd.<br>Swords Creek, VA 24649 | 0.97 acres    | 1.6513%             |
|               | -OR-  |               |                     |
| (1)           | James A. Hale, et ux.<br>4997 Lynn Springs Rd.<br>Swords Creek, VA. 24649 | 0.97 acres    | 1.6513%             |

#### Exhibit EE Unit AW-118

#### Docket #VGOB 03-0513-1147-01

# List of Conflicting Owners/Claimants with Royalty Split Agreements (58.74 Acre Unit)

|                   |  | Acres in Unit                      | interest in<br>Unit | Percent<br>of Escrow  | Well<br>AW118                   |
|-------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| t #1 <u>, 16.</u> | 52 acres   |                                    |                     |                       |                                 |
| COAL              | OWNERSHIP  |                                    |                     |                       |                                 |
| (2)               | Myrtle Donohoa Dye Heirs, Devisees,<br>Successors or Assigns (Pocehantes Seam) | 16.52 acres                        | 28.1239%            |                       | Escrowe<br>42.85729<br>of their |
| (8)               | James R. Grace * 18128 Brekenridge Court Abingdon, VA 24211                    | 5.51 acres<br>1/3 of 16.52 acres   | 9.3746%             | 12.89 <del>6</del> 2% | interes<br>in unit              |
| (6)               | Bill & Helen McReynolds *<br>151 Star Lake Dr.<br>Hawthome, FL 32640           | 5.51 acres<br>1/3 of 16.52 acres   | 9.3746%             | 12.8962%              |                                 |
| (c)               | Peggy Amett * 2590 Lester Court Mansfield, QH 44903                            | 5.51 acres<br>1/3 of 16.52 acres   | 9.3746%             | 12.8962%              |                                 |
| OIL 8             | GAS OWNERSHIP  |                                    |                     |                       | Paid                            |
| (1)               | H.C. Bostic Coal Company * P.O. Box 220 Swords Creek, VA 24649                 | 16.52 acres                        | 28.1239%            | 38.6886%              | 57.14289<br>of their<br>interes |
|                   | *NOTE. Although the tract is 16 52 acres, only the or                          | wnership of the Pocahontas Seam is | in conflict         |                       |                                 |

<sup>\*</sup> NOTE. Although the tract is 16 52 acres, only the ownership of the Pocahontas Seam is in conflict. To calculate acres escrowed: 16 52 acres x 42 8572% (Which indicates Pocahontas Seam) = 7 090009 acres in conflict.

Page 1 of 1

#### Tract #8, 1.18 acres

#### COAL OWNERSHIP

| (1)   | Swords Creek Land Partnership, Tr.17<br>P.O. Box 29<br>Tazewell, VA 24651 | 1.18 acres | 2.009% |
|-------|---|------------|--------|
| OIL 8 | B. GAS OWNERSHIP  |            |        |
| (1)   | Jearldine Whited<br>4881 Lynn Springs Rd.<br>Swords Creek, VA 24649       | 1.18 acres | 2.009% |